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SRI S. RAMALINGAM : மகாத்மா காந்தியால் கற்றுக் கொடுக்கப்பட்ட மறியல் இயக்கம் என்பது நமது சர்க்காரால் பலாத்காரம் என்று கருதப்படுமா ? அல்லது அஹிம்சா முறையை அடிப்படையாகக் கொண்டது என்று கருதப்படுமா ?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : இங்கே யார் யார் மீது நடவடிக்கை எடுக்கப்பட்டது என்று சொல்லப்படுகிறதோ அவர்கள் நடந்து கொண்ட முறை மகாத்மா காந்தி சொன்ன அஹிம்சா முறைப்படி அல்ல.

* 2769 *Q.*—SRI K. C. GOPALAN UNNI : Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether there was any dispute between the workers and the management of the Commonwealth Tile Works, Limited, Olavakkot;

(*b*) the present stage of the dispute; and

(*c*) the action taken by the Government to settle the dispute?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : (*a*) Yes, Sir.

(*b*) & (*c*) The Labour Officer, Kozhikode, conducted conciliation in the matter on 5th March 1955 and submitted his report to Government on 7th March 1955. The Government examined the conciliation report of the Labour Officer and referred for adjudication only the demands relating to dearness allowance and bonus for the year 1952–53.

* 2770 *Q.*—SRI C. KUNHIRAMA KURUP : Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have declared that the saw mill and tile industries are neither intermittent nor seasonal; and

(*b*) if so, whether the workers employed in these industries have been paid lay-off wages as envisaged in the Industrial Disputes (Amendment) Act, 1953?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : (*a*) & (*b*) The Government have decided not to declare the saw mill and tile industries as "seasonal" or "intermittent" under the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947, but that requests from individual industrial establishments should be considered on merits of each case. The workers of the Star Tile Works, Limited, Kallai, have been paid lay-off wages as provided for in the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947. If specific cases of non-payment of lay-off wages are brought to the notice of the Labour Department, necessary action will be taken in those cases.

SRI T. C. NARAYANAN NAMBIAR : On a former occasion, the Hon. Minister had the kindness to give an assurance that if individual cases were brought to the notice of the Government, action will be taken. A case has been brought before the attention of the Hon. Minister with regard to the Madurai Company where the management did not pay the lay-off wages to the workers on the

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ground that the matter whether the tile factory is a seasonal one or not has been referred to the Government. Have the Government taken any action on that?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : The hon. Member may put a separate question.

SRI K. P. GOPALAN : Will the Hon. Minister be pleased to state what are the principles on which the Government draw a conclusion as to whether a tile factory is a seasonal one or a non-seasonal one? Are the Government aware of the fact that individual owners, after getting a defeat from the Government, want to declare the factories as seasonal and will the Government take all these things into consideration and safeguard the interests of the workers?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : Sir, the Government do take into consideration all these factors before they give a decision whether a particular factory is seasonal or not. The main criterian that should be taken note of while deciding whether one is seasonal or not, is the number of days the factory works in the year.

SRI M. NARAYANA KURUP : Once the Government have declared the Saw Mill Industry as neither seasonal nor intermittent, may I know what dose the Hon. Minister mean by saying that the case of each factory will be considered on its merits?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : While the industry as such is considered to be neither seasonal nor intermittent, there may be particular factors relating to a particular factory which might lead to the decision that a particular factory is seasonal. That is why Government said they will consider each factory on individual merits.

* 2771 *Q.*—SRI K. P. GOPALAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that seven industrial disputes relating to Tile Factories in Feroke, Malabar, are pending before the Conciliation and Labour Officer, Kozhikode, for one year and four months; and

(*b*) if so, the reasons therefor.

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : (*a*) No, Sir.

(*b*) Does not arise.

" C " Class Ward Patients

* 2772 *Q.*—SRI T. C. NARAYANAN NAMBIAR : Will the Hon. the Minister for Health be pleased to state—

(*a*) the amount charged from a " C " Class Ward Patient per day in the Government General Hospitals at Madras and Kozhikode;